

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No.: 77987US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Imam et al.

Serial No.: 08/845,897

Filed: 08/28/1997

For: POROUS METAL/ORGANIC POLYMERIC COMPOSITES

Examiner: Vo, Hai

Art Group Unit: 1771

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 13, 2006

OIC to enter
H/V
09/26/06

RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of 05/30/2006, please consider the following remarks.

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. Claims 5, 6, 8-10, and 12-16 have been withdrawn pursuant to a restriction/election of species requirements. No claims are presently allowed.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-4, 7, 11, and 17-28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1 (2-4, 7, 11, 17-20, 23, and 26 dependent thereon), 21 (24 and 27 dependent thereon), and 22 (25 and 28 dependent thereon) recite that the article comprises from about 60 to about 95 vol.% of the polymeric matrix. The Examiner stated that support for this limitation is not found in the original disclosure. Support is found at page 7, line 7, which discloses a percent foam density of about 5-40. The Examiner stated that the term “percent foam density” is unclear. The term is defined at page 6, lines 17-19 as the density of one unit volume of foam/density of one unit volume of metal × 100. Since density is independent of volume, “density of one unit volume” is the same as “density.” Density of foam/density of metal × 100 is the same as the vol.% of foam. If the percent density, or vol.%, of the foam is about 5-40%, the foam is about 60-95% open cells.